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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	CIAE-00	OASY-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	LAB-01
	L-01	ADS-00	M-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OMB-01	PA-01
	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRME-01	DRL-09	G-00	/018W	
				-----963269 241040Z /38			

R 240926Z DEC 94
FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI
TO SECDEF WASHDC//OASD:UDP//
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
SECSTATE WASHDC 0702

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KIGALI 002614

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL PGOV RW
SUBJECT: MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER AND VICE
PRESIDENT

1. CONFIDENTIAL ENTIRE TEXT

2. I HAD MY FIRST PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH PRIME
MINISTER TWAGIRAMUNGU AND VICE PRESIDENT KAGAME
SINCE THEIR RESPECTIVE RETURN FROM THE UNITED
STATES. BOTH HAD VIVID MEMORIES OF THEIR
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
DATE/CASE ID: 04 NOV 2011 201005065

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STATESIDE EXPERIENCE AND USED THAT AS A SPRINGBOARD FOR ENUNCIATING DIFFERENT VISIONS OF WHERE RWANDA IS HEADED. FOR THE PRIME MINISTER, THE CRITICAL ISSUE WAS REESTABLISHING SECURITY SO THAT THE REFUGEES COULD COME HOME SAFELY. THE VICE PRESIDENT SAW THE ESSENTIAL MATTER AS GETTING FUNDING TO THE GOVERNMENT SO THAT IT COULD CARRY OUT ITS PROGRAMS EFFECTIVELY.

3. MOST VIVID IN TWAGIRAMUNGU'S MIND WAS THE COURTESY DAS BUSHNELL HAD EXTENDED IN CALLING ON HIM PRIVATELY IN HIS WASHINGTON HOTEL ROOM. ACCORDING TO THE PRIME MINISTER, SECURITY ISSUES THAT HE HAD OUTLINED TO MS. BUSHNELL THEN WERE STILL VERY MUCH AT ISSUE. A FEW DAYS AGO, THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR HAD TOLD HIM OF SOME FORTY PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN KILLED AFTER THEIR RETURN TO KIBUYE PREFECTURE FROM GOMA. YET THE OTHER SIDE EXPLAINED AWAY SUCH EVENTS AS THE WORK OF "INTERAMAMWE." HIS COMMENTS ON THE SECURITY ISSUE UPON HIS RETURN TO KIGALI (FBIS DTG 082058Z DEC 94) WERE CHARACTERIZED AS "SHATTERING" AND HE HAD BEEN CRITICIZED FOR NOT CLEARING HIS REMARKS FIRST WITHIN GOVERNMENT.

4. IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S VIEW, THE CRITICAL AGENDA FOR HIS GOVERNMENT WAS ESTABLISHING SECURITY SO THAT THE REFUGEES COULD COME BACK HOME; THE COUNTRY COULD NOT FUNCTION WITHOUT THEIR PRESENCE. YET, HE CLAIMED, HARD LINE MINISTERS FROM THE RPF REALLY DID NOT WANT THE REFUGEES TO

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RETURN. RATHER THEY HOPED TO TURN LANDS IN THE SOUTH AND NORTH EAST INTO AREAS OF SETTLEMENT FOR TUTSI EXILES SO THAT THEY COULD FIND SECURITY IN BEING SURROUNDED BY THEIR OWN KIND. THE RPF'S DETERMINATION THAT MASSACRES WOULD HAPPEN "NEVER AGAIN" HAD TRANSLATED INTO ITS OBSESSION WITH KEEPING A PERMANENT GRIP ON POWER. HE FELT THE ONLY FUTURE FOR HIS COUNTRY WAS IN TRANSCENDING ETHNIC DIVISIONS AND SHARING POWER. ACCORDING TO

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TWAGIRAMUNGU, RWANDANS DEPENDED HEAVILY ON THE UNITED STATES TO KEEP THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES TO THE FOREFRONT IN OUR DIALOGUE WITH THEIR GOVERNMENT.

5. VICE PRESIDENT KAGAME REMEMBERED THE PRECISION OF CEREMONIES RENDERED HIM, THE HECTIC PACE OF HIS SCHEDULE, AND THE USEFUL EXCHANGES HE HAD AT SEVERAL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT. HE WENT OVER HIS AGENDA IN GOING TO WASHINGTON: HE WANTED TO SECURE ASSISTANCE SO THAT THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT COULD FUNCTION AND ACCOMPLISH ITS OBJECTIVES, SPUR INTERNATIONAL ADDRESS TO THE CAMP SECURITY ISSUE, AND FIND MILITARY HELP THROUGH TRAINING AND LIFTING THE EMBARGO. KAGAME PRONOUNCED HIMSELF COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITH THE TENOR OF HIS DISCUSSIONS.

6. I REMINDED THE VICE PRESIDENT THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD LED IN PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO NEEDY RWANDANS EVEN BEFORE THE WAR HAD ENDED, IN PUSHING FOR JUSTICE THROUGH AN

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INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL AND IN FUNDING PAYMENTS FOR
WORLD BANK ARREARS. OUR CURRENT TASK WAS RAPID
IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSISTANCE TO KEY MINISTRIES.
WHEN I INQUIRED WHAT ITEMS RAISED DURING HIS TRIP NEEDED
MOST URGENT ATTENTION, KAGAME RESPONDED THAT IN
ADDITION TO FOLLOW UP ON THE AGENDA ITEMS HE HAD
JUST COVERED, HE FELT THERE NEEDED TO BE MORE
CONTINUOUS DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON
CONTENTIOUS ISSUES. HE CITED THE WAY THE GERSONY
REPORT HAD BEEN LEAKED AS AN ILLUSTRATION OF HOW
CHARGES WERE MADE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT WITHOUT
IT BEING ABLE TO ACCEPT OR REJECT CONTENTIONS.
ONCE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, SUCH CHARGES DID COSTLY
DAMAGE WHICH THE GOVERNMENT COULD HARDLY REPAIR.
HE FELT
THAT A LOT OF MISINFORMATION IN RWANDA HAD
GOTTEN BACK TO HEADQUARTERS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

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7. IN PRESENTING THE VICE PRESIDENT UNCLASSIFIED
ON AMERICAN ART, I NOTED HOW SALIENT AT THIS

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SECSTATE WASHDC 0703

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 KIGALI 002614

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MOMENT IN RWANDAN HISTORY WERE THE SEASONAL
GREETINGS FOR PEACE. I WISHED HIM SUCCESS IN HIS
EFFORTS TO SECURE PEACE AND A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL
RWANDA. HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS TRYING ITS
BEST. THEY WOULD DO THE RIGHT THING; IF THEY
FAILED IT WOULD NOT BE BECAUSE THEY HAD NOT TRIED,
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BUT BECAUSE OF EXTERNAL FACTORS.

8. COMMENT. BOTH LEADERS WELCOMED ME GRACIOUSLY;
THEIR COMMENTS WERE POINTED AND SERIOUS. AUDIENCES
IN BOTH CASES WERE GRANTED WITHIN A DAY OF MY REQUEST.
AFTER THEIR RECENT TRIPS TO THE UNITED STATES AND
THE STRONG REAFFIRMATION OF US INTENTIONS MADE DURING
MR. LAKE'S VISIT TO RWANDA, BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER
AND VICE PRESIDENT SEEM INTENT ON COOPERATING CLOSELY
WITH THE UNITED STATES IN ORDER TO LEVERAGE THEIR
VISION OF A BETTER FUTURE FOR RWANDA.
REAFFIRMATION OF USR CORDIALLY MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. RAWSON

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